

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 04779 240802Z

20

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 MC-02 IO-14 OMB-01 ACDA-19

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 DRC-01 /135 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7620

USIA WASHDC

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

UNCLAS BELGRADE 4779

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OGEN, YO, XF

SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION REPORT: MIDDLE EAST CEASE-FIRE

1. YUGOSLAV MEDIA WEEKEND OCT 20-23 GAVE EXTENSIVE PROMINENT PLAY TO KISSINGER-BREZHNEV NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TO UN CEASE-FIRE RESOLUTION. NEWS DESPATCHES FROM WAR FRONTS HAVE BEGUN TO PICTURE MORE CLEARLY PRESENT MILITARY SITUATION, INCLUDING ISRAELI SUCCESSES. EDITS CAUTIOUSLY SUPPORT CEASE-FIRE WITH EMPHASIS ON DEMAND FOR IMMEDIATE ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL AND, RESTORATION OF "ARAB RIGHTS."

2. BELGRADE'S LEADING DAILY POLITIKA, IN OCT 23 RADENKOVIC EDIT, WRITES THAT UNLESS CEASE-FIRE IS FOLLOWED BY CONSTRUCTIVE DIPLOMATIC NEGOTIATIONS, RESULT COULD BE "MORE BITTER, WIDER, AND DANGEROUS" MIDDLE EAST WAR. BIG POWER AGREEMENT TO END WAR, EDIT STATES, "CANNOT AND MUST NOT REPLACE ARAB RESPONSIBILITY AND ROLE IN SECURING FOR ARAB PEOPLE, THEIR RIGHTS, THEIR DESTINY".

3. BELGRADE'S BORBA (OCT 23) OFFERS VLADO TESLIC EDIT WHICH FAVORABLY ASSESSES CEASE-FIRE RESOLUTION, BUT CAUTIONS THAT ALTHOUGH RELATIONS OF BIG POWERS HAVE SUCCESSFULLY UNDERGONE GREAT TEST, "NEITHER SIDE HAS REASON TO REJOICE." MID-EAST
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PAGE 02 BELGRA 04779 240802Z

WAR IS PERHAPS LAST WARNING, CONCLUDES EDIT, THAT "WORLD

PEACE CANNOT BE BASED ON BALANCE OF POWERS BUT MUST BE
BASED IN FIRST PLACE ON HONORING LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF ALL
PEOPLES."

4. OCT 20 POLITIKA EDIT BY ALEKSANDAR NENADOVIC ATTEMPTS TO
COUNTER SOME CRITICISM OF GOY ACTION SUPPORTING ARABS,AND
MENTIONS OCT 16 WASHINGTON POST STORY. NENADOVIC DELCARES
THAT YUGOSLAV FOREIGN POLICY IS "PRINCIPLE AND CONSISTENT,"
AND OBLIGED TO ASSIST THOSE RESISTING AGRESSION. "BY ASSISTING
LIBERATION STRUGGLE OF NON-ALIGNED STATES," ARGUES NENADOVIC,
"YUGOSLAVIA STRENGTHENS THE FOUNDATION OF HER OWN INDEPEND-
ENCE AND NON-ALIGNMENT."
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